

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

April 30, 2008

Ms. Sara Brown, Treasurer
Ohio Republican Party State
Central & Executive Committee
211 S. Fifth Street
Columbus, OH 43215

Response Due Date: June 2, 2008

Identification Number:

C00162339

Reference:

November Monthly Report (10/1/07 - 10/31/07)

Dear Treasurer:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report(s) referenced above. This notice requests information essential to full public disclosure of your federal election campaign finances. Failure to adequately respond by the response date noted above could result in an audit or enforcement action. Additional information is needed for the following 4 items:

- 1. Schedule A supporting Line 17 of your report discloses one or more receipts totaling \$15,231.74 from the "State of Ohio". Please amend your report to clarify the nature of these receipts.
- 2. Schedule A supporting Line 17 of your report discloses a payment from "The 316 Group LLC." It appears this receipt was for goods and/or services provided by your committee. Pursuant to Advisory Opinion 1979-18, the sale/purchase price paid to a political committee could involve the receipt of a contribution from a purchaser if the purchase price exceeds the "usual and normal charge". The term "usual and normal charge" for goods is defined as the price of those goods in the market from which they ordinarily would have been purchased at the time of the contribution. Examples of goods and services include equipment, supplies, personnel, advertising services, membership lists, and mailing lists. 11 CFR §100.52(d)(1) and (2)

Please clarify whether your committee assessed the usual and normal charge for the goods and/or services you provided and explain the steps your committee took in determining the amount charged. If your committee provided the goods and/or services at more than the usual and

OHIO REPUBLICAN PARTY STATE CENTRAL & EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE Page 2

normal charge, the difference between the two is considered to be an inkind contribution received by your committee from a corporation and is prohibited subject to the limits set forth at 2 U.S.C. §441b(a)

3. Schedule A supporting Line 15 of your report discloses a payment(s) from an organization(s) which is not a political committee(s) registered with the Commission (see attached). It appears the receipt(s) was for goods and/or services provided by your committee. Pursuant to Advisory Opinion 1979-18, the sale/purchase price paid to a political committee could involve the receipt of a contribution from a purchaser if the purchase price exceeds the "usual and normal charge". The term "usual and normal charge" for goods is defined as the price of those goods in the market from which they ordinarily would have been purchased at the time of the contribution. Examples of goods and services include equipment, supplies, personnel, advertising services, membership lists, and mailing lists. 11 CFR §100.52(d)(1)

Please clarify whether your committee assessed the usual and normal charge for the goods and/or services you provided and explain the steps your committee took in determining the amount charged. If your committee provided the goods and/or services at more than the usual and normal charge, the difference between the two is considered to be an in-kind contribution(s) received by your committee from an unregistered organization(s) and is prohibited subject to the limits set forth at 2 U.S.C. §§441a(f) and 441b or 11 CFR §102.5(b).

4. The totals listed on Lines 21(a)(i), 21(a)(ii), 21(b) and 32, Column B of the Detailed Summary Page(s) appear to be incorrect. Please be advised that you should add the "Calendar Year-to-Date" total from your previous report to the current "Total This Period" figure from Column A to derive the correct Column B totals. Please amend your report and any subsequent reports that may be affected by this correction.

Please note, you will not receive an additional notice from the Commission on this matter. Adequate responses must be received by the Commission on or before the due date noted above to be taken into consideration in determining whether audit action will be initiated. Failure to comply with the provisions of the Act may also result in an enforcement action against the committee. Any response submitted by your committee will be placed on the public record and will be considered by the Commission prior to taking enforcement action. Requests for extensions of time in which to respond will not be considered.

Electronic filers must file amendments (to include statements, designations and reports) in an electronic format and must submit an amended report in its entirety, rather than just those portions of the report that are being amended. If you should have any questions regarding this matter or wish to verify the adequacy of your response, please contact me on our toll-free number (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 5 to reach the Reports Analysis Division) or my local number (202) 694-1157.

Sincerely, Yaura E. Sirraio

Laura E. Sinram

Senior Campaign Finance Analyst

Reports Analysis Division

221

OHIO REPUBLICAN PARTY STATE CENTRAL & EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE Page 4

Clarify Usual and Normal Charge for Receipt from Unregistered Organization:

Name	Date	Amount
OH Federation of Republican Women	10/1/07	\$221.30
OH Federation of Republican Women	10/1/07	\$221.30
OH Federation of Republican Women	10/1/07	\$221.30

•

.

•

.